

### • Capital Spending

# Brothers of Assorted Sizes Are Kibitzing on Our Lives

*By Glendy Calligan*

**THE NAKED SOCIETY.** By Vance Packard. McKay. 369 pp. \$5.95.  
**THE PRIVACY INVADERS.** By Myron Brenton. Coward-McCann. 237 pp. \$4.95.

WHEN GEORGE ORWELL PROJECTED a totalitarian nightmare into our future with his novel "1984," he created the slogan "Big brother is watching you" as the most horrendous symptom of a people's loss of freedom. Yet today, 20 years before Orwell's prophetic deadline, a great many brothers big and small are watching everyone of us, despite our illusion that democracy guarantees privacy to its citizens. Independently conceived, these two books are similar in aim and treatment. Their theme is the encroachment on individuality.

uals of a society that paradoxically proclaims itself free, yet leaves few people free from supervision. Both books document—often with identical material—the areas in which privacy is invaded and the instruments by which it is invaded. As descriptive accounts, both are well organized, instructive and alarming, with Packard holding a slight edge in scope and detail, while Brenton achieves a more lively style.

and Fifth Amendments, but the most insidious violations today are effected by means that the Founding Fathers could not have anticipated.

Even Samuel Warren and Louis Brandeis, who formulated our present legal concept of privacy in the Harvard Law Review of 1890, were unable to foresee the multiple forms of harassment which now beset us.

These, as itemized by both authors, include widespread use of classic detective methods for routine business purposes, an incredible array of electronic devices used in industrial as well as criminal surveillance; mushrooming of tests that violate the privacy of self, both for academic and industrial placement; a vast network of personal dossiers accumulated by credit and insurance agencies, often now stored in electronic memory banks; extended use of the highly questionable polygraph technique for identification;

In addition, I asked students to notice as a violation of privacy and examine examples of these from their thought in the classroom.

ACCORDING TO THE evidence, the number of people who have a little list on which you may find **yourself is truly astonishing.** Collective files of the Associated Credit Bureaus of

America contain dozens, often intimate ones, on 120 million consumers. The smaller Retail Credit Companies, which shopped the personal habits of 42 million shoppers, the Fair Credit Reporting Agency described as "an investigative supermarket" earns \$36 million a year looking into peoples' pasts. The privately sponsored, ultra-conservative American Security Council boasts a list of more than a million allied and enemy

And so on ad infinitum and ad nauseam. The prospect of so much good, so much pleasure, so much happiness, is pleasing to any self-reporting individual, or to any citizen concerned with the shape of his society.

Yet, in their zeal to expose abuses (and thereby stimulate sales), neither of these authors considers very seriously the moral and legal problems that exploiting societies must face.

"The right to be let alone is indeed the beginning of all freedom. Justice Brandeis is quite in one back to saying. Unfortunately, no one then means that the end of all freedom is responsibility."

Anthropomorphic feelings that even denote changes between internalized controls and external controls for the functioning of order in the environment. I can illustrate it through a banish the electronic eye, we have

**III—The eye that works as well**—I'll not only, that something else is being the Larkin, the eye is the



*Harbana Show  
Opens at Center*

More than 300 Japanese flower arrangements will be seen at the National Housing Center, while a Japanese show will be in view for six days beginning April 2.

A large Japanese garden with a little bridge will provide a focal point for the entire show. The exhibit is arranged by area women who learned the Ikebana art in Japan.

Admission is free. The Housing Center, 1625 E. St., n.w., is open daily.

Greek choros, the village town gossip, and more effective in rapidly spreading societies here to our feet.

Today, His eye rests on the sparrow, but in previous segments of the *Satoko*, the sparrow seems his favorite. He is unaware of that survival dance. Consequently, and until evolution deplores mankind of some of its most trouble some traits, we shall have to render some accounting for our behavior. Throughout history, and in all the groups have ever considered, the group system side

Donner would certainly be a pleasant alternative to espionage, but it requires a lot of time every day in the muscles of self-restraint. As an aid to either type of control, our laws should be refined to meet the challenges of technology, and these books usually define the need. They fail to remind us, however, that in the long run only a whole-sale retooling of the individual conscience can make big brother machines obsolete.

## Burton Quotes Bard: 'No More'

We All Have No More  
 Marriages. Hamlet  
 III, Scene 9

1090510, M.

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note

## SIHANOUK SPEAKS

**What effect will the Cambodian Chief of State's words—and his recent actions—have on Western Policy in Southeast Asia?**

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 1954, 1955, 1956  
 1957, 1958, 1959